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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 July 2014

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/68/L.41/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

68/301. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling also its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and resolutions 58/233 of 23 December 2003, 59/254 of 23 December 2004, 60/222 of 23 December 2005, 61/229 of 22 December 2006, 62/179 of 19 December 2007, 63/267 of 31 March 2009, 64/258 of 16 March 2010, 65/284 of 22 June 2011, 66/286 of 23 July 2012 and 67/294 of 15 August 2013, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support",

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[1] including the recognition of the need to meet the special needs of Africa, and recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Recalling the political declaration on Africa's development needs, adopted at the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs on 22 September 2008,[2]

Recalling also the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[3] including the recognition that more attention should be given to Africa, especially to those countries most off track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

Recalling further that significant challenges remain in achieving sustainable development in Africa, as emphasized in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[4] including the importance of fulfilling all commitments to advance action in areas critical to Africa's sustainable development,

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[1] Resolution 60/1.

[2] Resolution 63/1.

[3] Resolution 65/1.

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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Recalling its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012, by which it established a United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, and looking forward to the first biennial report, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session,

Recalling also the holding of the high-level thematic debate of the General Assembly on the promotion of investment in Africa and its catalytic role in achieving Africa's development objectives, including those of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, on 17 July 2014,

Taking note of other initiatives, such as the first high-level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation on the theme "Building towards an inclusive post-2015 development agenda", held in Mexico City on 15 and 16 April 2014,

Stressing that addressing Africa's special development needs should be given due attention in the post-2015 development agenda,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and bearing in mind also the need for their development efforts to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[5]

Noting with appreciation the recent progress made by the 34 African countries and the 4 regional economic communities that voluntarily adopted the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and committed to ensuring an annual rate of growth in agriculture of 6 per cent and to allocating at least 10 per cent of public expenditure to the agricultural sector, as appropriate, and noting with appreciation also that, today, nine countries have reached or surpassed the 10 per cent budget allocation target, while another nine countries are currently spending between 5 and 10 per cent,

Welcoming the decision, taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session, held on 15 and 16 July 2012, to proclaim 2014 the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa,

Reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa,

1. *Welcomes* the eleventh consolidated report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Reaffirms its full support* for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[7]

3. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the full implementation of the political declaration on Africa's development needs,[2] as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted as the outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008;[8]

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[5] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] A/68/222.

[7] A/57/304, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

4. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the New Partnership as well as regional and international support for the New Partnership, while acknowledging that much needs to be done in its implementation;

5. *Takes note* of the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013, on the progress made in implementing the Abuja actions towards the elimination of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa by 2030, also takes note of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted at the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS on 10 June 2011,[9] further takes note of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases, held in Abuja from 24 to 27 April 2001, and reaffirms the resolve to provide assistance for prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of ensuring an HIV/AIDS-, malaria- and tuberculosis-free Africa by addressing the needs of all, in particular the needs of women, children and young people, and the urgent need to scale up significantly efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure strengthened global partnership and increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

6. *Also takes note* of the road map on shared responsibility and global solidarity for AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria response in Africa, from 2012 to 2015, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session, notes the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa as an African high-level platform to advocate action, accountability and resource mobilization for response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa, and requests, as appropriate, and in line with other international obligations, development partners and the United Nations system to support efforts of African countries and organizations to reach the main objectives put forward in the African Union road map, including achieving diversified sustainable financing, strengthening regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and enhancing leadership and governance of the responses;

7. *Recognizes* that HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases pose severe risks for the entire world, in particular the African continent, and serious challenges to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of diseases, including of neglected tropical diseases, and in this context reiterates its support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

[9] Resolution 65/277, annex.

9. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard welcomes the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, held in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, and acknowledges the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa;

10. *Takes note* of the declaration of the high-level meeting of African and international leaders, entitled "Toward African renaissance: renewed partnership for a unified approach to end hunger in Africa by 2025 under the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme";

11. *Expresses deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, recognizes evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, is cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and sustain recovery, still remains in a challenging phase, with downside risks, including high volatility in global markets, high unemployment, particularly among young people, indebtedness in some countries and widespread fiscal strains, which pose challenges for global economic recovery and reflect the need for additional progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stresses the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date;

12. *Expresses concern* about the negative consequences of the uneven global recovery, the increasing challenges posed by climate change, drought, land degradation, desertification, the loss of biodiversity and floods, and the serious challenges these impacts pose to the fight against poverty and hunger, which could pose serious additional challenges to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in Africa;

13. *Recognizes* that, while global growth is returning, there is a need to further strengthen the recovery, which is still uneven, stresses the urgent need for full recovery and sustained and accelerated growth, which translates into new employment opportunities, secure incomes and improved livelihoods, and reaffirms the need to continue to support the special needs of Africa and to take action to mitigate the multidimensional impacts of the crisis on the continent;

14. *Notes* that the rapid economic growth of some developing countries has had a positive impact on the efforts of the African continent to sustain and expand growth, despite the fact that those developing countries continue to face development challenges;

15. *Expresses concern* at Africa's disproportionately low share in the volume of international trade, which stands at approximately 3 per cent, also expresses concern that official development assistance to Africa fell in 2013, and further expresses concern at the increased debt burden of some African countries;

16. *Notes* that foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, that it has a critical role in achieving development objectives and inclusive economic growth, including through the promotion of job creation and poverty eradication, and that it contributes to the active participation of the African economies in the global economy and facilitates regional economic cooperation and integration, and in this regard calls upon developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct

investment, inter alia, through the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services;

17. *Also notes* the importance of promoting the formalization of informal sector activities in Africa;

18. *Calls upon* developing countries and countries with economies in transition to continue their efforts to create a domestic environment conducive to attracting investments by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights;

19. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including inclusive industrial development, and policies which seek to enhance productive capacities in Africa can generate employment and income for the poor and, therefore, be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

20. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, notes the steps taken in this regard, and emphasizes in this context the need to avoid further marginalization of the African continent;

I

Actions by African countries and organizations

21. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to continue their efforts towards achieving development goals, developing and strengthening institutions for governance, creating an environment conducive to involving the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, in the New Partnership implementation process, developing public-private partnerships for financing infrastructure projects and attracting foreign direct investment for development;

22. *Also welcomes* the collaboration between the African Private Sector Forum and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages the strengthening of this partnership in conjunction with the African Union Commission in support of the development of the African private sector and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in line with the relevant executive decisions of the African Union;

23. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts exerted by the African Union and the regional economic communities in the area of economic integration, as well as ongoing efforts by the African Union in the operationalization of the provision contained in General Assembly resolutions 59/213 of 20 December 2004, 61/296 of 17 September 2007 and 63/310 of 14 September 2009, and stresses the key role of the United Nations system in supporting the African Union in the social, economic and political fields and in the area of peace and security;

24. *Recognizes* the important role that African regional economic communities can play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encourages African countries and the international community to give regional economic communities the support necessary to strengthen their capacity;

25. *Welcomes* the decision by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at its eighteenth ordinary session, on 29 and 30 January 2012, to strengthen intra-African trade, which plays an important role in promoting economic growth and development, and calls upon the United Nations system and development partners to continue to support the efforts of African countries, the African Union and regional economic communities to enhance intra-African trade;

26. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as reaffirmed in the solemn declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union;

27. *Takes note* of the progress in the development of the African Union Agenda 2063 as a strategic vision and action plan for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, particularly through regional integration, industrialization, diversification of the economy and job creation;

28. *Welcomes* the commendable progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, in particular the completion of the peer review process in 17 countries, and welcomes the progress in implementing the national programmes of action resulting from those reviews, and in this regard urges African States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Mechanism process and to strengthen the Mechanism process for its efficient performance;

29. *Welcomes and appreciates* the continuing and increasing efforts of African countries in mainstreaming a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;

30. *Encourages* African countries to accelerate the achievement of the objective of food security in Africa, welcomes the commitment made by African leaders to raise the share of agriculture and rural development in their budget expenditures and ensure better governance to effectively manage the resources allocated, and in this regard reaffirms its support for, inter alia, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, under the strong leadership of African countries, in accordance with the targets set by the New Partnership;

31. *Also encourages* African countries to strengthen and expand local and regional infrastructure and to continue sharing best practices with a view to strengthening regional and continental integration, and in this regard notes with appreciation the work of the high-level subcommittee of the African Union on the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, which seeks to further strengthen the development of infrastructure on the African continent in collaboration with relevant development partners;

32. *Further encourages* African countries to maintain the trend of increasing investment in infrastructure development and improving the efficiency of existing infrastructure investment, in the context of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms needed to produce the expected results;

33. *Encourages* African countries to continue their efforts in investing in education, science, technology and innovation to enhance value addition and industrial development;

II

Response of the international community

34. *Welcomes* the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

35. *Also welcomes* the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners, as well as other initiatives, emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa and the need for their effective implementation, and in this regard recognizes the important role that North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation can play in supporting Africa's development efforts, including in the implementation of the New Partnership, while bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for but rather a complement to North-South cooperation;

36. *Urges* continued support of measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and hunger, job creation and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment, and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

37. *Expresses deep concern* about the continuing negative effects of desertification, land degradation and drought on the African continent and, in particular, the critical situation in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa region, which have experienced one of the worst droughts in history, and underlines the need for short-, medium- and long-term measures, and in this regard calls for the continued effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[10] including its 10-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008–2018),[11] to address the situation;

38. *Recognizes* that Africa, which contributes the least to climate change, is one of the regions most vulnerable and most exposed to its adverse impacts, and in this regard calls upon the international community, in particular developed countries, to continue to support Africa in its adaptation and sustainable development efforts through, inter alia, the transfer and deployment of technology, on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and the provision of adequate and predictable new resources, in line with existing commitments;

39. *Notes* the progress made at the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 7 December 2013, and looks forward to the timely implementation of the "Bali package", including the trade facilitation agreement, and calls for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome of the Doha Development Agenda multilateral trade negotiations;

40. *Reiterates* the important role of trade as an engine of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, in particular its contribution to boosting job creation, given high youth unemployment in Africa, and

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[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[11] A/C.2/62/7, annex.

to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and emphasizes the need to resist protectionist tendencies and to rectify any trade-distorting measures already taken that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules, while recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize their flexibilities consistent with their commitments and obligations as members of the World Trade Organization;

41. *Also reiterates* the need for all countries and relevant multilateral institutions to continue efforts to enhance coherence in their trade policies towards African countries, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to fully integrate African countries into the international trading system and to build their capacity to compete through such initiatives as aid for trade and, given the world economic and financial crisis, the provision of assistance to address the adjustment challenges of trade liberalization;

42. *Calls for* a comprehensive and sustainable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, and recognizes the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and debt restructuring, as debt crisis prevention and management tools for mitigating the impact of the world financial and economic crisis in developing countries;

43. *Welcomes* the efforts of some developed countries which are on target to meet the commitments made in terms of increased official development assistance;

44. *Expresses deep concern* at the fact that the commitment to double aid to Africa by 2010, as articulated at the Summit of the Group of Eight held at Gleneagles from 6 to 8 July 2005, was not entirely reached, and in this regard stresses the need to make rapid progress in order to fulfil the Gleneagles and other donors' substantial commitments to increase aid through a variety of means;

45. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, as well as the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

46. *Considers* that innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution towards assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis and that such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, and, while highlighting the considerable progress on innovative sources of financing for development achieved to date, stresses the importance of scaling up present initiatives and developing new mechanisms, as appropriate;

47. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[12] and

[12] A/63/539, annex.

the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

48. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture and food security in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme's investment plans for alignment of external funding, and in this regard takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;[13]

49. *Also recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners to align their efforts in infrastructure investment towards supporting the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa;

50. *Invites* all of Africa's development partners, in particular developed countries, to support African countries in promoting and maintaining macroeconomic stability, to help African countries to attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting domestic and foreign investment, for example by encouraging private financial flows, to promote investment by their private sectors in Africa, to encourage and facilitate the transfer of technology to African countries, on mutually agreed terms, and to assist in strengthening human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership, consistent with its priorities and objectives and with a view to furthering Africa's development at all levels;

51. *Stresses* that the prevention, management and resolution of conflict and post-conflict consolidation are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership, and welcomes in this regard the cooperation and support granted by the United Nations and development partners to the African regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of the New Partnership;

52. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission in assisting post-conflict countries in Africa, particularly the six African countries for which the Commission has established country-specific configurations;

53. *Urges* the international community to give due attention to Africa's priorities, including the New Partnership, in the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda;

54. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to provide assistance to the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership and to African countries in developing projects and programmes within the scope of the priorities of the New Partnership and to place greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of the effectiveness of its activities in support of the New Partnership;

55. *Emphasizes* African ownership of the African Peer Review Mechanism process, and invites the international community to support the efforts of African countries, at their request, in implementing their respective national programmes of action arising from the process;

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[13] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

56. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the United Nations development system to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives through, inter alia, the Millennium Villages Project, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report an assessment of those quick-impact initiatives;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa,[14] and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa in all its normative and operational activities;

58. *Welcomes* the establishment of a United Nations monitoring mechanism to review commitments made related to Africa's development, and invites Member States and all relevant entities of the United Nations system, including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, in particular the Economic Commission for Africa, and all relevant international and regional organizations to contribute to the effectiveness and reliability of the review process by cooperating in the collection of data and the evaluation performance;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the basis of inputs from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and other stakeholders in the New Partnership.

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[14] The nine clusters include: infrastructure development; environment, population and urbanization; social and human development; science and technology; advocacy and communications; governance; peace and security; agriculture, food security and rural development; and industry, trade and market access.